

25 Science Mini-Books for Emergent Readers

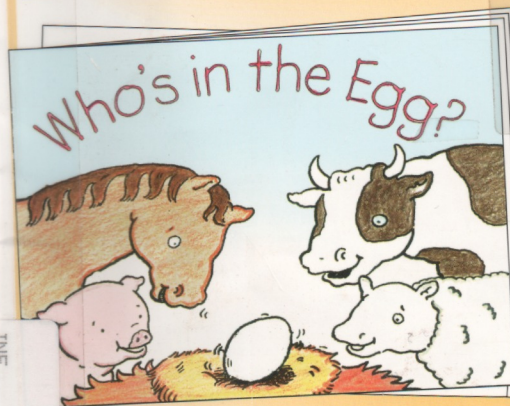
Build Literacy With Easy and Adorable Reproducible
Mini-Books on Favorite Science Topics



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Look! What is that poking through? 6

by Carol Pugliano-Martin

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Introduction

Recently, I met weekly with a first-grader as part of my teacher education program. Ethan loved reading nonfiction books, especially if they were science-related. Of course, I sought to provide him with books that were enjoyable, informative, and on-level for him. This turned out to be harder than I thought. Some books explained scientific concepts, but the language was too advanced. Others touched on science themes, but were a bit fantastic in their presentation. The latter really bothered Ethan. For example, he became quite upset when we read a story I had written about a hermit crab whose friends, after learning that he has outgrown his shell, build him a tiny house, complete with window boxes and shutters. Ethan refused to finish the book with me, citing that hermit crabs live in shells, not houses!

These mini-books are designed for children like Ethan, who are truly interested in science but become overwhelmed by too much text or too many concepts. The books accurately present each topic while maintaining conventions appropriate for early readers, such as rhyme, repetition, predictability, and appealing illustrations that closely match the text. Children will enjoy the process of making their own books that they can color and keep. By cutting and assembling these books themselves, they will hone their fine-motor skills. The visual and hands-on nature of the mini-books enhances learning by tapping into students' various learning styles.

Here are some ways that these books can be used with your students:

- ⊗ to introduce a science lesson
- ⊗ to encourage students to read and review at home
- ⊗ to create a science library for each child in your class
- ⊗ to celebrate seasonal changes
- ⊗ to complement your reading instruction program
- ⊗ to launch creative writing or research projects
- ⊗ to encourage independent exploration of a particular science topic
- ⊗ to use as springboards for creative dramatics
- ⊗ to start a classroom science center

Companion activities that provide ideas for further exploration of each mini-book are included on pages 5–14. These “Curriculum Connections” include hands-on science and art projects, creative writing ideas, and cooperative learning activities to make science lessons interactive and lively. In addition, you’ll find suggestions for fun follow-up reading wherever you see a “Bookshelf” note.

I hope that your students will enjoy these science books written especially for them. I also hope that these mini-books will plant the seed for love of science and discovering the joys that it can bring.

— Carol Puccio-Martin

Curriculum Connections

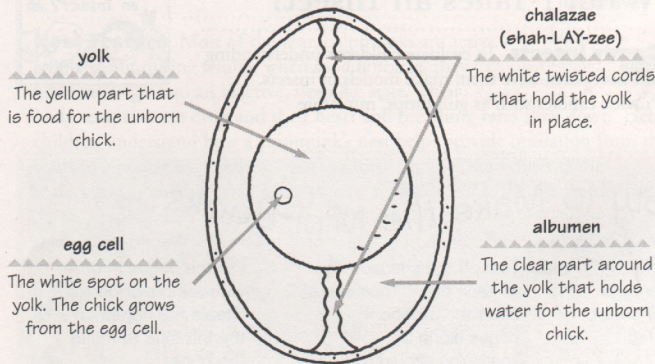
Animals, Animals

Who's in the Egg?

Inside an Egg How do the parts of an egg help an unborn chick grow? Let children take a close-up look inside an unfertilized egg to find out.



1. Have children work in small groups. Provide a raw egg, hand lenses, a bowl, paper towels, pencils, and paper to each group.
2. Copy the diagram and labels below on the chalkboard.
3. Help children crack the eggshell in half and put the egg into a bowl.
4. Have them use a hand lens to examine the shell.
5. Point out the tiny dots on the shell. Explain that these dots have tiny holes in them that help the unborn chick breathe.
6. Help children identify the other parts of the egg. Encourage them to draw a picture of the egg and to label the parts.



A Butterfly Grows Up

Butterfly Life Cycle Help children review the stages of a monarch butterfly's life cycle with this art activity. Give each child a piece of construction paper measuring about 5 by 17 inches. Then have them follow these steps.



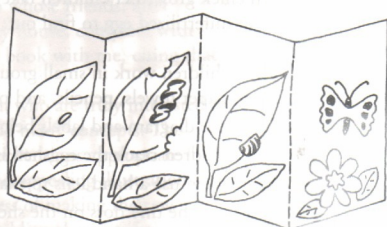
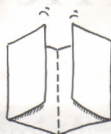
Safety Note

Remind children to keep their hands away from their mouths while they work with the egg and to wash their hands after handling it.



Though the text is for older children, the fabulous close-up photos of the monarch's life cycle and migration make *Monarchs* by Kathryn Lasky (Harcourt Brace, 1993) a worthwhile addition to your classroom library.

1. Fold the paper in half, then open it up. Fold each half inward to the center crease, and then refold as necessary so that the pages fold back and forth along the creases like an accordion. Unfold the pages.
2. On the first page, glue on "milkweed leaves" made from green construction paper. Add a monarch "egg," a single grain of rice.
3. On page 2, glue on a "caterpillar" made from tube- or spiral-shaped pasta that has been painted with yellow, black, and white stripes.
4. On page 3, glue on a "chrysalis" made from shell macaroni that has been painted green and dotted with tiny specks of yellow or gold paint. The chrysalis should hang from the underside of a leaf.
5. On the last page, the monarch emerges! Glue on a piece of bow-shaped pasta. Paint it with black and orange markings.



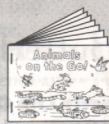
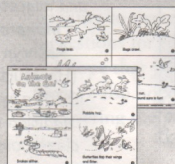
What Makes an Insect?

Candy Insects To evaluate children's understanding of insect parts, have them make models of insects. Provide candies such as gumdrops, miniature



How to Make the Mini-Books

1. Copy the pages for the books on standard 8 1/2- by 11-inch paper, making single-sided copies.
2. Trim off the shaded edge of each page. Then cut apart the mini-book pages along the solid lines. You should have 8 pages (including the cover) for each book.
3. Put the pages in order with the cover on top. Staple the pages on the left side to make the book.



marshmallows, and shoestring licorice, and toothpicks to attach the parts to each other. Or substitute modeling clay, Styrofoam packing pieces, pipe cleaners, cellophane, tissue paper, and other materials. When the insects are completed, ask: What would a candy spider look like? How would it look different from your insect?

Animals on the Go!

Animal Relay Race Discuss how the different animals in the mini-book move. Then ask children to invent movements that represent each animal. For example, rabbits might hop with bent knees, butterflies might run on tiptoes and flutter their arms, and snakes might wriggle across the floor. Once everyone understands the movements, divide the class into teams and have each team assign a different animal to each teammate. Children then have a relay race in which each animal, in turn, wriggles or flutters or hops across a marked distance. You might also help children time how long each animal takes to travel the distance and then graph the results. Once the race is over, ask: Which animals were the slowest? The fastest? Why?



Shhh! Time to Sleep

Nest Testers Most of the year, chipmunks are active animals. But during winter, when food is scarce, they hibernate—go into an inactive, sleeplike state. Their body temperatures drop and their heart and breathing rates slow down. Help children understand how a chipmunk's nest helps provide insulation from the cold. In a plastic bag, make a "nest" of leaves, grasses, and other plant materials. Let children take turns placing their fist inside the nest in the bag. Then, keeping their fist in the bag, have them place the bag in a pail of cold water. Does the nest keep their fist warm? How is it like a chipmunk's nest? Can children think of ways to make the nest even warmer?



Dinosaurs

Big Book of Dinosaur Records What was the smallest dinosaur? The biggest? Which dinosaur was fastest? Which one ate the most? Make a chart of children's questions about dinosaurs. Then help them research the answers. Invite each child to contribute a page to a class Big Book of Dinosaur Records. Children can record their questions and answers and draw illustrations of their dinosaur.



Young scientists will enjoy the labeled diagrams that accompany each of the 16 bugs featured in *Bugs* by Nancy Winslow Parker and Joan Richards Wright (Greenwillow, 1987). Lively rhymes complement the informative text.

What Do Animals Do in Winter?: How Animals Survive the Cold by Melvin and Gilda Berger (Chelsea House Publishers, 1998), describes the ways different animals cope with winter's chill, including migration, hibernation, and camouflage.

When It Starts to Snow by Phillis Gershtator; illustrated by Martin Matje (Henry Holt, 1998). A boy observes the behaviors of various animals in wintertime and answers the questions, "Where do animals go and what do they do when it snows?" Appealing illustrations and rhyming, patterned text make this a perfect choice for emergent readers.

Animals at Home



Spider's Web by

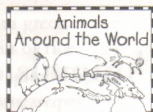
Christine Back and
Barrie Watts (Silver
BurdeTT Press, 1986)
is a fascinating book
for young spider
enthusiasts. Each
easy-to-read two-
page spread includes
a clear diagram of
one step in the web-
making process.
Extraordinary photos
of the spider at work
fill the opposite
pages.

Children will also enjoy
*The Lady and the
Spider* by Faith
McNulty
(HarperCollins, 1986),
a charming story
that follows the daily
life of a spider who
makes her home in a
head of lettuce. What
will happen when a
lady picks the lettuce
to make a salad?

Animals Around the World

Postcards From Afar Invite children to research

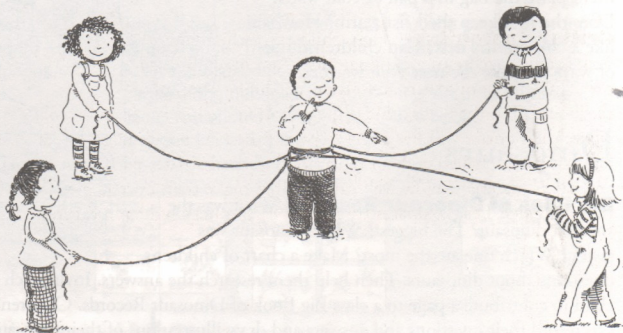
one of the animals in the mini-book: what its home is like, how it is adapted to its environment, how it stays safe from danger, what it eats, and so on. Then give each child a 5- by 8-inch index card. Ask children to write a postcard from their animal telling about its life. On the other side of the card, have them draw a picture showing the animal in its habitat. Set up a postcard shop where children can read and "shop" for each other's cards.



Spin, Spider, Spin!

How Does a Web Work? Explain to children how

a spider can tell if something has gotten caught in its web. When an insect or other small prey is caught in the web, it struggles to get free. The spider feels the vibrations of the insect's movements along the web and can detect where the insect is in the web. Let children experience this themselves. Divide the class into groups of five. Give each group four long lengths of string. Have children tie each piece around the waist of one group member who is the spider. Have the other group members, the "insects," each take a string and stretch it out. Tell the "spider" to close his or her eyes, and have the insects take turns gently tugging on their strings. Can the spider figure out from which direction the tug is coming?



Home Sweet Home



Home for Sale! After reading the mini-book, help children find out more about different animal homes. Then bring in the real estate section of a newspaper.

Discuss reasons people advertise their homes, then read aloud some of the ads. Also, invite children to study the design of the ads. What are some things children notice about them (abbreviated language, bold print, catchy phrases, descriptive details)? Have children work in groups to pick an animal home and create an ad for it using pictures and words. For example, an ad for a beaver home might say, "For Sale: Beaver lodge, 3 BIG Rooms, Riv Vu." Compile the groups' ads to make a class real estate section of animal homes.

In the Dark of the Night



Nighttime Animal Mural Invite children to work in small groups to find out more about each of the animals described in the mini-book. They may also like to research other nocturnal animals such as crickets, moths, nightcrawlers, raccoons, and skunks. Then, ask children to draw or paint pictures of their chosen animal and write facts about the animal on sentence strips. Help children display their projects on a bulletin board. Then create nighttime in your classroom by darkening the room. Let group members take turns shining a flashlight on their animal and sharing the facts they learned about it with the rest of the class.

Peek-a-Boo!



Critter Camouflage Help children see firsthand how camouflage helps an animal hide from predators or prey. Take them outdoors and give each child a scrap of cardboard. Tell them that this is their "critter." Ask them to pick a place where their critter will live and to observe the colors and shapes in its habitat. Then challenge them to camouflage their critter with crayons, paint, and other materials. How well can children make their critters blend in with their habitats? Let classmates try to find each other's hidden creatures.



Animal Homes

(the National Geographic Society, 1989). Ingenious pop-ups help young readers learn how different animals build their homes and help readers gain a better understanding of those homes as 3-D structures.

Earthworms, bats, skunks, and other nocturnal animals literally pop off the pages in *One Very Small Square: Nighttime in My Backyard* by Donald M. Silver and Patricia J. Wynne (McGraw Hill, 1994).

Flaps, wheels, and pull-tabs add to the fun and the learning.

In *Step Into the Night* by Joanne Ryder (Macmillan, 1988), a young girl observes a firefly flashing for a mate, a mouse in search of food, and other creatures in her backyard that come out when darkness falls.

Bookshelf

Take a close-up look at the inhabitants of a pond in ***One Small Square: Pond*** by Donald M. Silver and Patricia J. Wynne (McGraw Hill, 1994). Exquisite, detailed illustrations and lively text bring the world of a pond to life.

Woven nests, mud nests, sewn nests—***Cradles in the Trees: The Story of Bird Nests*** by Patricia Demuth (Macmillan, 1994) describes with the aid of clear watercolor paintings the variety of nests built by birds.

Who Lives in the Pond?

Pond in a Pan Let children create their own miniature ponds. Discuss the animals and plants described in the mini-book. Then pass out aluminum pie pans. Give children clay to create the shoreline, leaving an open space in the middle for the pond. They can create landscapes with twigs, pebbles, and sand; reeds and cattails with colored toothpicks or pieces of straw; ducks, fish, frogs, and other animals with colored Plasticine. Then pour water into the pans, add a few drops of blue food coloring, and stir. Sprinkle green glitter “duckweed” or “algae” over the surface. Then invite children to go on a “field trip” around the classroom to observe their classmates’ ponds.

Who Lives in the Pond?



Birds Build Nests

For the Birds! Let children supply materials for birds to use in building their nests. Have children loosely weave materials such as string, yarn, ribbon, straw, bits of fabric, cotton, and hair through the open spaces of a plastic berry box or net bag (like an onion bag). Use a piece of string to hang the box from a tree branch or bush that’s in view from your classroom windows, if possible. Let children observe their supply box. What kinds of birds take items from the box? What kinds of materials do they take?



How My Body Works

Growing Up

My Life Timeline Ask children to think about some important things that have happened in their lives. Then invite them to record these events in pictures and words on a timeline as shown. If possible, have them write the year below each event. (Family members may be able to help recall these details.) Children may include events such as when they learned to talk, when they began to walk, when they lost their first tooth, when they started school, when they learned to write their name, and so on.



My Body Is My Buddy



Body Riddle Rhymes Challenge children to tell which part of the body each of the following riddles tells about.

- Snip, rip, grind, crunch, we help you to eat your lunch! What are we? (teeth)
- Like a spread on a bed, I cover your head! What am I? (hair or skin)
- I turn, bend, and twist. On top of me your head sits! What am I? (neck)

Then invite children to make up their own rhyming riddles about different body parts, such as eyes, ears, noses, bones, and muscles. Volunteers can take turns reading the riddles aloud. Can they stump their classmates?

My Five Senses



Senses Team Up This activity reinforces the idea that our five senses often work together. First, have children look through magazines and cut out pictures of people doing different activities. Next, have children create their own chart by writing the five senses down the left side and pasting their pictures along the bottom, as shown. Then invite students to record the senses that the people in each picture are using by checking the appropriate boxes. For example, children might check seeing, smell, and touch for a picture showing a person walking in a flower-filled meadow. Finally, help children interpret the information on the chart. Which senses were used most and least often? Afterward, let children choose a picture and write about what the person in the picture might see, hear, smell, feel, or taste.

The Senses					
hearing			✓		
seeing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
taste		✓			✓
smell	✓	✓			✓
touch	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

I Am Healthy!



Good Health Pantomimes Invite children to act out the motions described in the mini-book. Then ask them to write and illustrate their own "We Are Healthy!" class big book. First, generate a list of things that they do to stay healthy (such as playing sports or eating nutritious foods). Let children work individually or in teams to create a page for the book. Then bind the pages together with a front and back cover. Invite volunteers to act out the various motions described on each page as the class reads it aloud.



Lively text and whimsical illustrations explain how the five senses work in Joanna Cole's *You Can't Smell a Flower With Your Ear!* All About Your 5 Senses (Putnam/Grosset, 1994). Children will enjoy doing the simple "try this" activities that illustrate, for example, how our sense of smell helps us know how foods taste.

Grow, Plants, Grow



Recipe for a Plant

Sprout-a-Seed Necklaces Have children make a necklace that lets them watch seeds sprout. Collect small, clean, clear plastic pill containers or spice jars. Then give each child a container, a piece of moistened cotton, several seeds (alfalfa, radish, or grass seeds work well), and an 18-inch length of yarn or string. Show children how to put the cotton inside the container, place the seeds between the cotton and the side of the container, and put the lid on. Then have them tie the yarn around the lid, knot the ends, and put their necklaces on. As children watch their seeds for changes, explain that seeds can sprout without soil as long as they get air and water. (The air in the closed containers will be sufficient to allow the seeds to sprout.) After they sprout, transfer the seeds to larger containers with soil so that they can continue to grow.



Sunflower Helpers

Sunflower Mural Sunflowers can grow as tall as 20 feet, but average around 6 feet tall. Let students create a life-size sunflower to review the "helpers" that make these amazing plants grow.



1. Lay a six-foot piece of bulletin board paper on the floor. Make roots by gluing down pieces of brown yarn. For soil, spread glue around the roots and sprinkle with coffee grounds. Or color around the roots with brown crayons.
2. Build the tall stem with empty cardboard rolls from gift wrap, painted green. Fit one inside the other, cut to size, and glue down. Attach green construction paper leaves (or use crepe paper, which can be shaped to create more lifelike leaves).
3. Make bees by painting cotton balls and attaching features snipped from construction paper. Glue these onto the sunflower.
4. Attach the mural to the wall. Add a big, bright, construction paper sun. Children can add labels describing the job of each sunflower "helper."

Seeds on the Go

Travel Tests Let children test and classify seeds based on the way they travel. Collect a variety of seeds (milkweed seeds, dandelion parachutes, cockleburrs, pussy willows, sycamore seeds, maple seeds, and acorns). Also have on hand



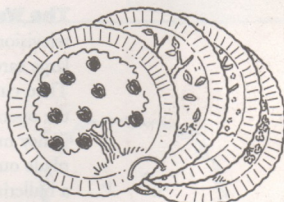
A young girl raises sunflowers from seeds in *Backyard Sunflower* by Elizabeth King (Dutton, 1993). Stunning color photos make this book a standout.

a few wool socks or mittens or stuffed animal toys, bowls of water, and straws. Label four paper plates: GRABBER, FLOATER, WIND DRIFTER, and SPINNER. Then model how to do each test and how to sort the seeds on the labeled plates based on the test results.

- **GRABBER TEST** Press a fuzzy sock, mitten, or a stuffed animal on top of the seed. If it sticks, the seed is a "grabber."
- **FLOATER TEST** Place the seed in water. If it floats, the seed goes on the "floaters" plate.
- **WIND DRIFTER TEST** Place the seed on a desk and blow on it gently with a straw. If it moves, it's a "wind drifter."
- **SPINNER TEST** Hold the seed above your head and drop it. If the seed spins as it falls, it goes on the "spinner" plate.

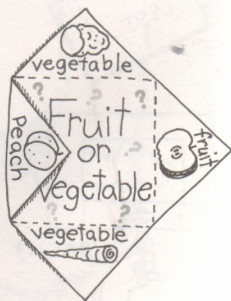
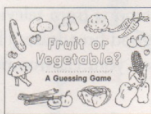
An Apple Tree's Year

Apple Tree In-the-Round Books Let children create their own books to record a year in the life of an apple tree. Give each child four small paper plates. Then set up four stations where children can draw, paint, and use craft materials to show how an apple tree looks during each season. Branches painted with watered-down glue and sprinkled with salt produce a snowy effect for winter; crumpled pieces of pink tissue paper make delicate apple blossoms; red cinnamon candies or small beads can be used for apples; and leaves cut out from red, orange, and yellow construction paper work well for autumn. Then punch holes in the plates and use a brass fastener or O-ring to hold the pages together. To see the changes in their apple tree, children fan out the pages.



Fruit or Vegetable? A Guessing Game

Fruit or Vegetable? Fold-Ups Bring in an assortment of the fruits and vegetables described in the mini-book. Hold up different plant products and ask children to decide whether each is a fruit. To check their guesses, cut open the foods to look for seeds. Then let children make fold-up books to record their discoveries. Give each child an 8-inch square of construction paper. Show them how to fold each corner into the center as shown. On each outside flap, have them draw and label a different fruit or vegetable. Inside, on the middle square, children write "Fruit or Vegetable?" Inside each flap, children draw how the plant product looks inside and write whether it is a fruit or a vegetable. Children will enjoy taking home their fold-ups to test their family members' knowledge about fruits and vegetables.

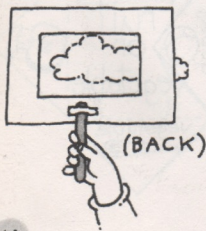
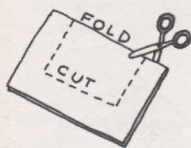


Share *The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree* by Gail Gibbons (Harcourt Brace, 1984) to let children learn more about the colorful life cycle of an apple tree.

I Am an Apple by Jean Marzollo (Scholastic, 1997) brings the growing cycle of an apple to life in beautiful, full-color collages.



Franklyn M. Branley offers simple and clear explanations of thunder and lightning in *Flash, Crash, Rumble, and Roll* (HarperCollins, 1985). This book will also help to calm children's fears about thunderstorms. Use *Rain and Hail* by the same author to help children learn about the water cycle and where rain and hail come from.



Earth & Sky

Look Up in the Sky

Sky-Watch Banners Help children find out more about the awesome sights that fill the sky. Divide the class into groups and assign each group a different celestial object or sky phenomenon to research. Also encourage children to make their own observations of the moon, clouds, stars, and so on. (Tell children not to look directly at the sun, however.) Then let the class create a sky-watch banner to share what they learned. Place a roll of bulletin board paper on the floor. Let each group take turns drawing, painting, and writing captions about the topic they studied. Provide other materials, such as glitter and glue to help stars twinkle, cotton to make clouds fluffy, and shiny yellow paint to make bright, shiny suns. (To make the paint, mix 1 cup of corn syrup with about 20 drops of food coloring.) Display the banner in the hallway for everyone to enjoy!



All Kinds of Weather

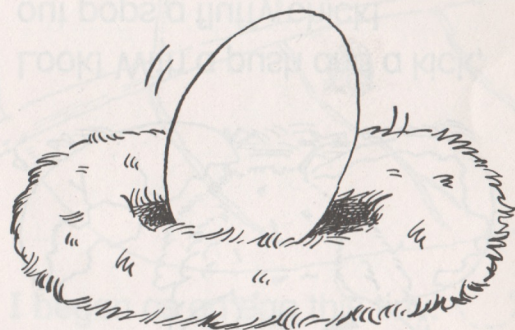
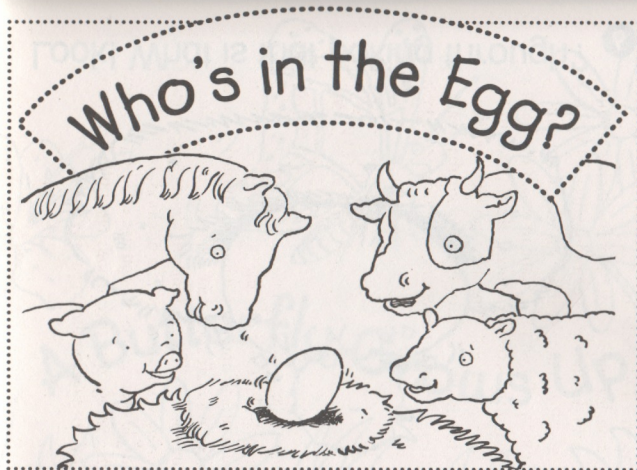
The Weather Channel Invite children to become television weather forecasters! Cut out the bottom of a large cardboard box, like the carton a TV comes in. Then cut out a window in one side, leaving a border of a few inches around the opening. Invite children to help decorate the box to look like a TV. (They might glue on milk jug caps for channel knobs and add an antenna made out of pipe cleaners, for example.) Use sturdy tape to attach the box to a bulletin board so that the "TV screen" faces out. Encourage children to bring in weather reports from the newspaper. If possible, also tape weather reports from television to show to students. Discuss the elements that make a good broadcast. Then let children take turns presenting daily weather reports on your classroom TV.



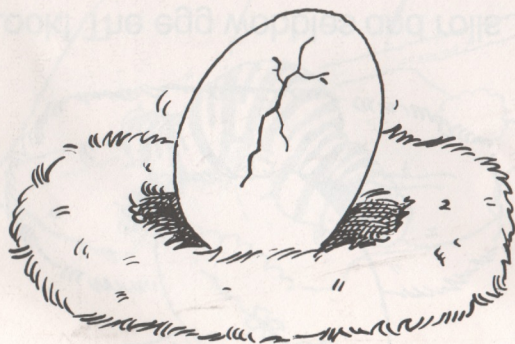
Clouds

Catch a Cloud Let children make viewfinders to help them catch a cloud! Give each child half of a file folder. Show them how to fold it in half and cut a window out of the center. Then have them unfold it and tape a craft stick near one end. Around the frame, let children draw pictures of the different kinds of clouds they might see. Take children outside on a day when there are lots of clouds in the sky. Tell them to "catch" a cloud inside their frames. Encourage children to name shapes, people, animals, or other things that their clouds resemble. (Caution children to protect their eyes by not looking directly at the sun.)





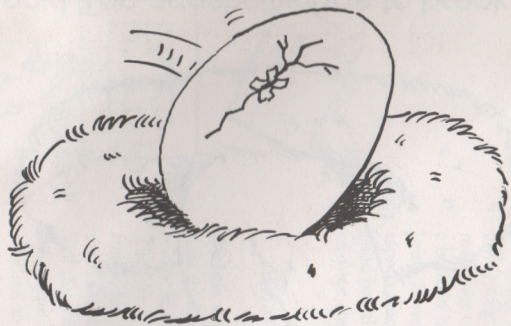
Look! The egg begins to shake. 1



Look! The eggshell starts to break. 2

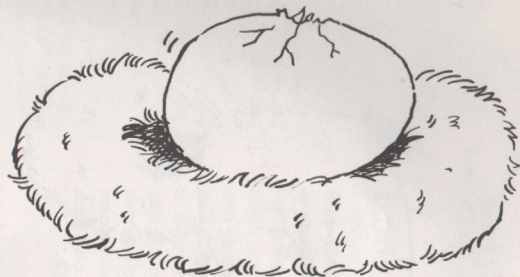


Look! There is a tiny hole. 3



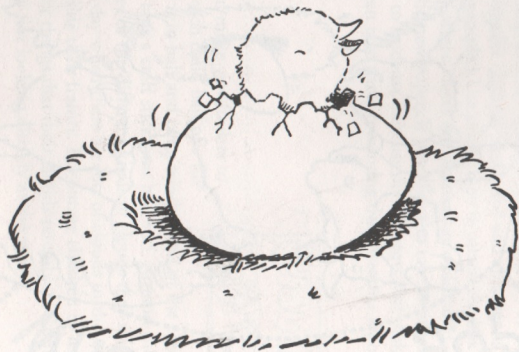
Look! The egg wobbles and rolls.

4



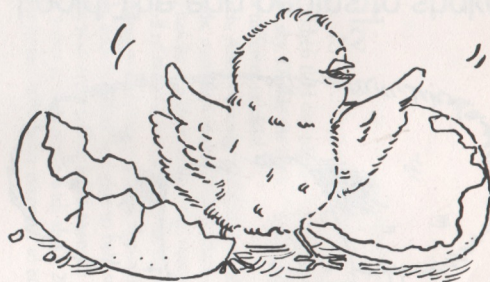
Look! What's this egg going to do?

5



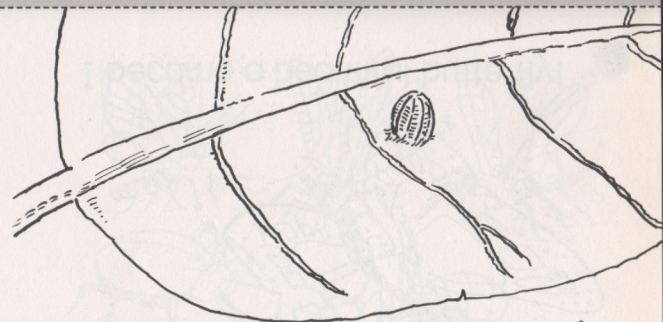
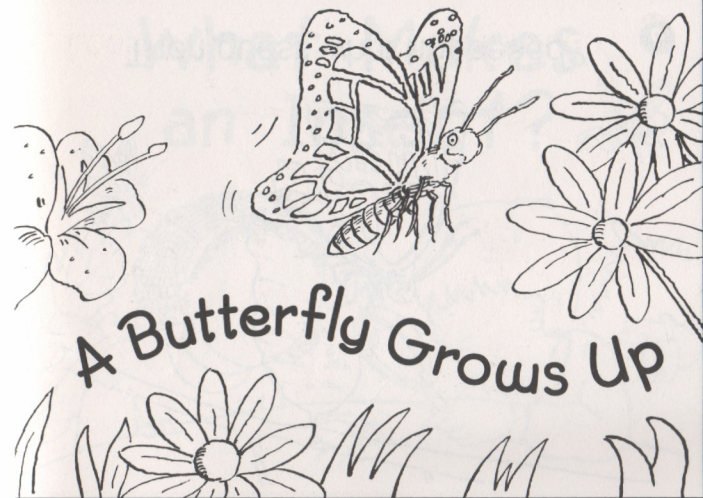
Look! What is that poking through?

6



Look! With a push and a kick,
out pops a fluffy chick!

7



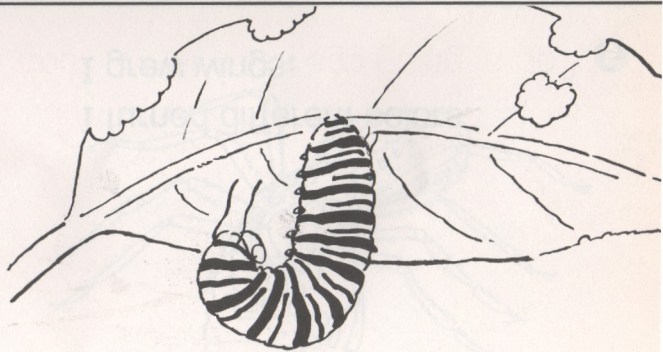
I began as an egg this tiny.
Inside the egg, I became
a caterpillar.

1



After I hatched, I ate a lot
and grew and grew and grew!

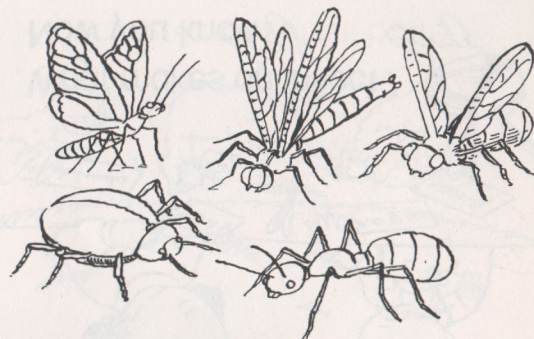
2



Then I hung from a leaf and
changed into a chrysalis.

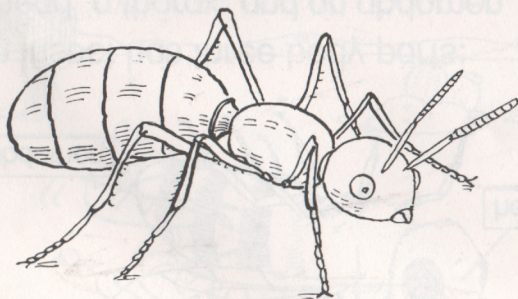
3

What Makes an Insect?



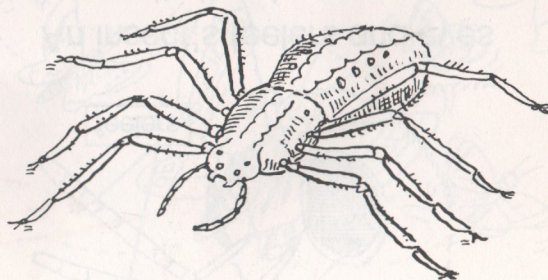
What makes an insect?
Do you know?

1



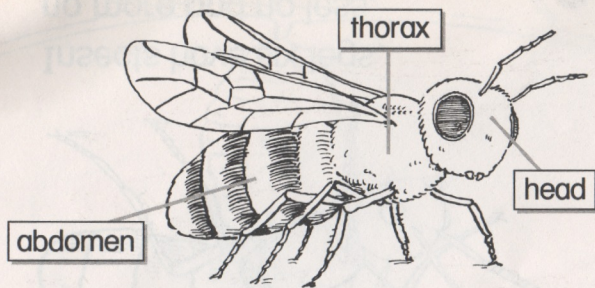
Insects have six legs,
no more and no less.

2

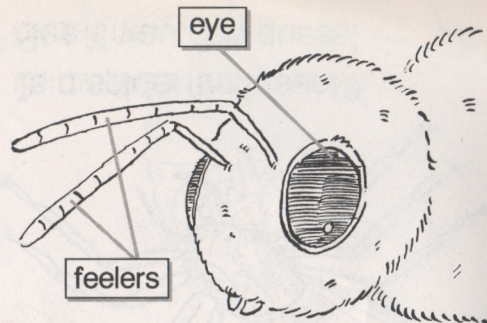


Is a spider an insect?
See if you can guess!

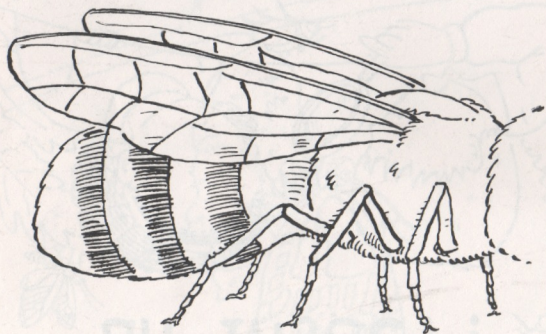
3



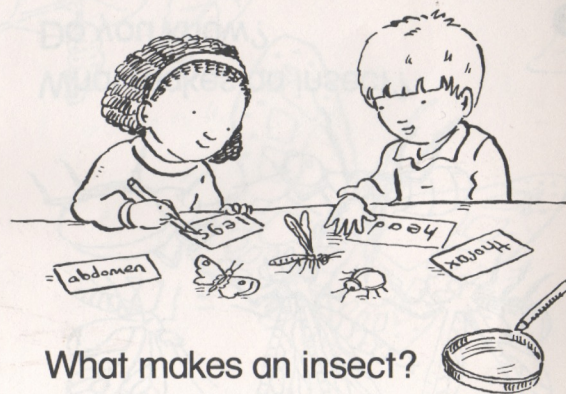
An insect has three body parts:
a head, a thorax, and an abdomen. 4



An insect's feelers and eyes
are on its head. 5



The legs and wings are on
the thorax. 6



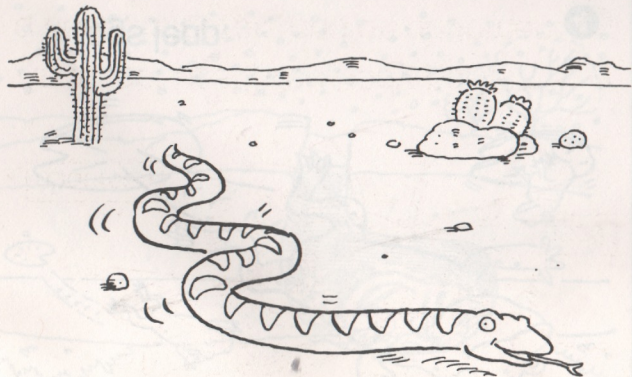
What makes an insect?
Now you know! 7

Animals on the Go!



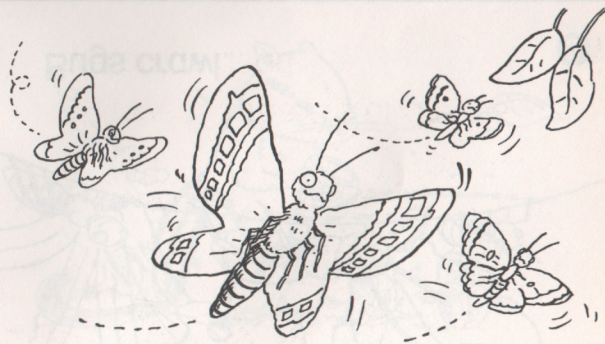
Rabbits hop.

1



Snakes slither.

2



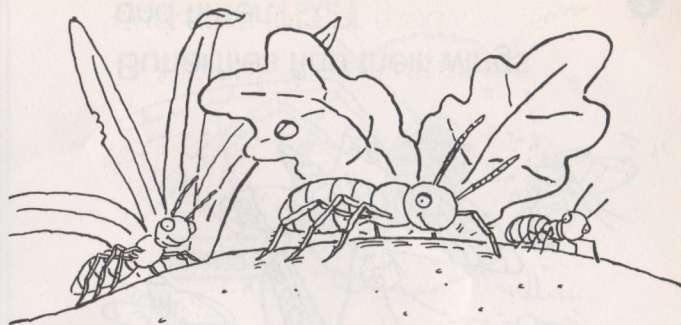
Butterflies flap their wings
and flutter.

3



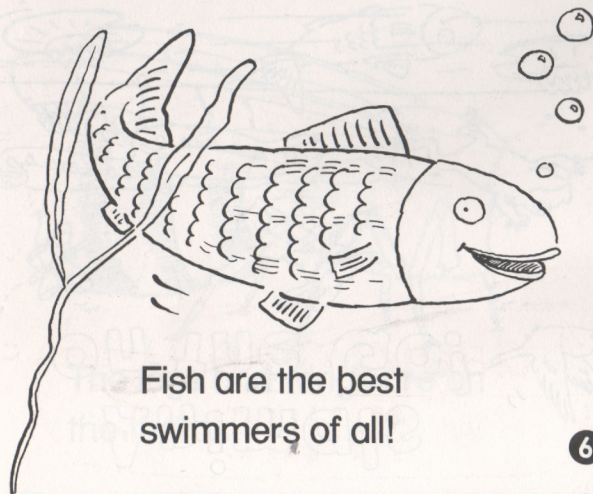
Frogs leap.

4



Bugs crawl.

5



Fish are the best
swimmers of all!

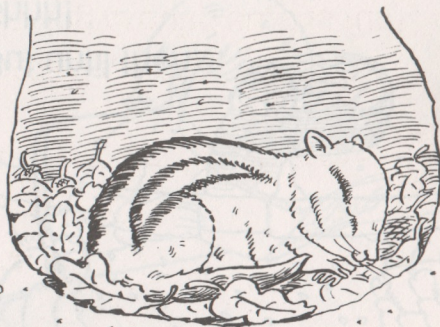
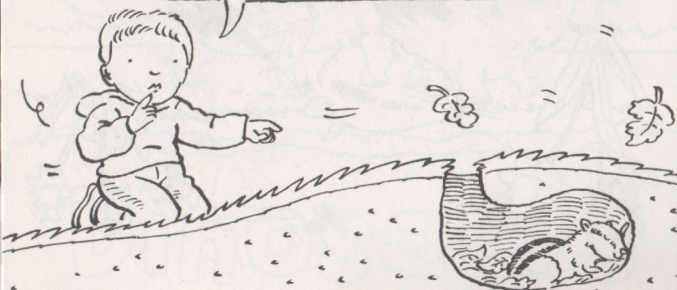
6



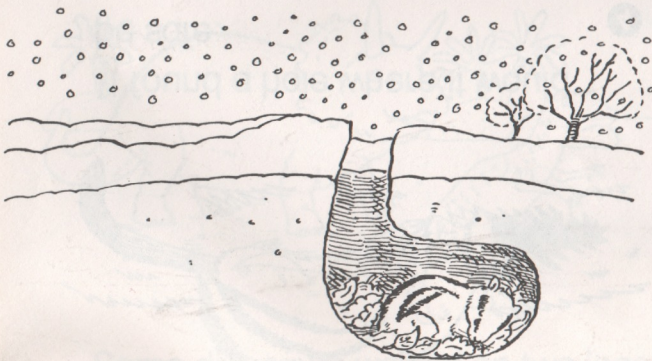
Birds fly. I run.
Moving around sure is fun!

7

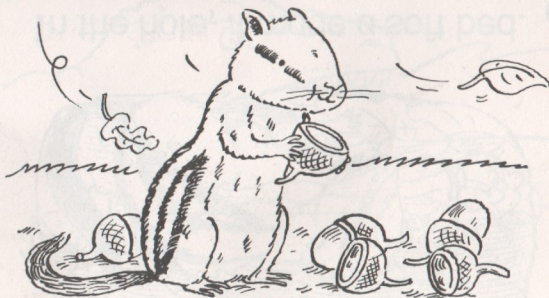
Shhhh!
Time to Sleep



Shhhh! The chipmunk is sleeping. ①



It will sleep through the winter. ②

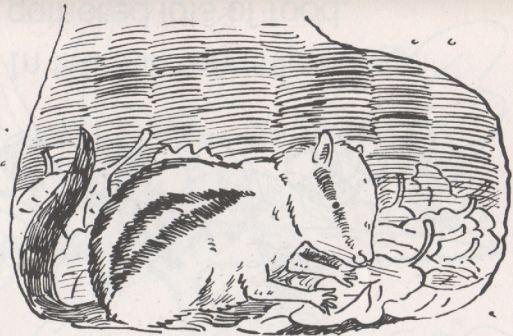


In the fall, the chipmunk
gathered lots of food. ③



It found a hole where it would be safe.

4



In the hole, it made a soft bed.

5



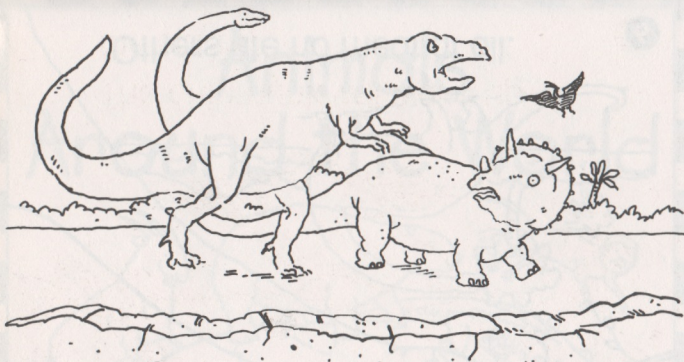
The chipmunk will wake up in the spring.

6

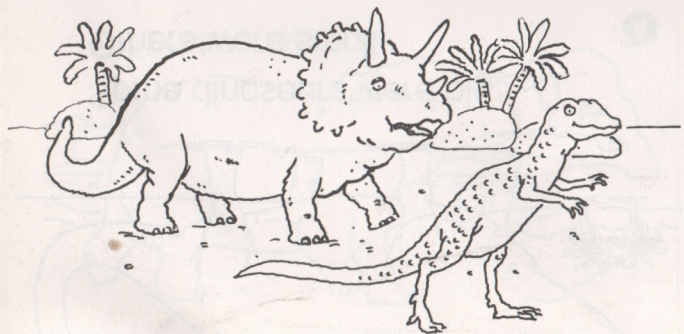


But until then...
Shhh!

7



Dinosaurs



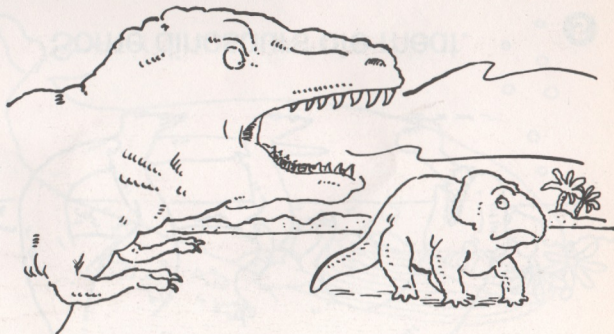
Some dinosaurs walked on two legs.
Others walked on four.

2



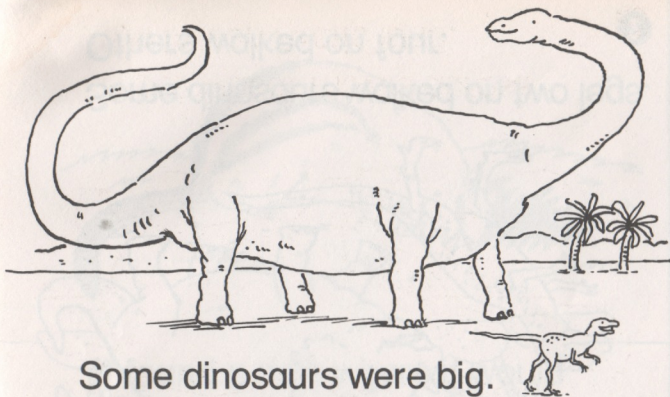
Dinosaurs lived a long time ago.
There aren't any left, you know.

1



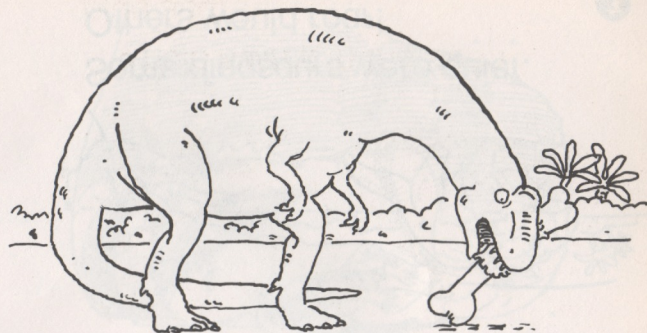
Some dinosaurs were quiet.
Others would roar!

3



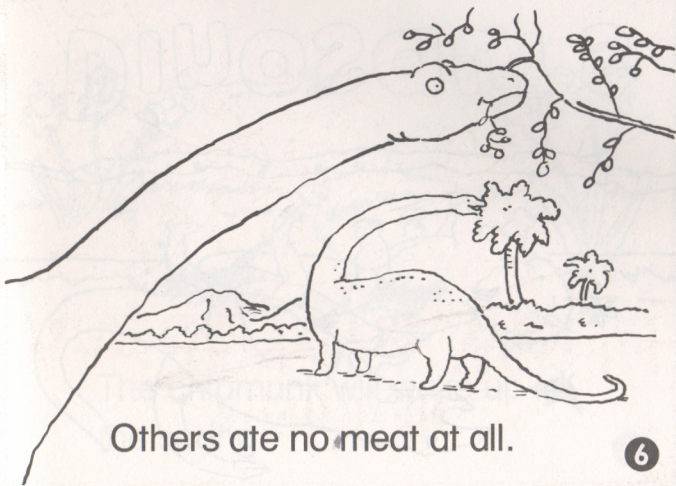
Some dinosaurs were big.
Others were small.

4



Some dinosaurs ate meat.

5



Others ate no meat at all.

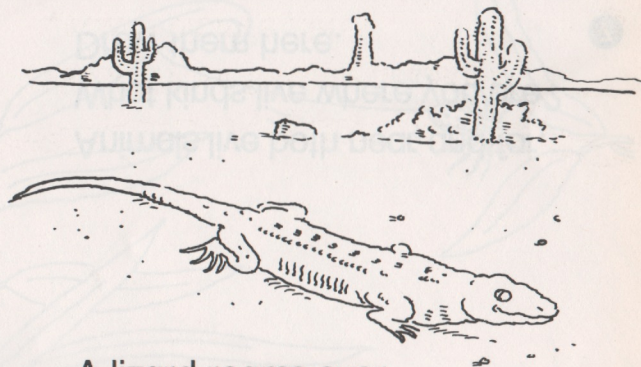
6



What is your favorite dinosaur?
Draw a picture here.

7

Animals Around the World



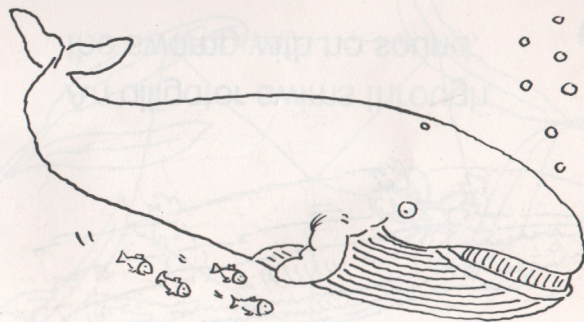
A lizard roams over
the desert sand.

1



A polar bear moves across
the frozen Arctic land.

2



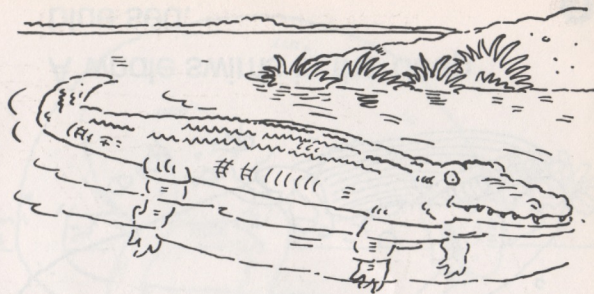
A whale swims in the deep
blue sea.

3



A monkey swings from
a rain forest tree.

4



An alligator swims through
the swamp with no sound.

5



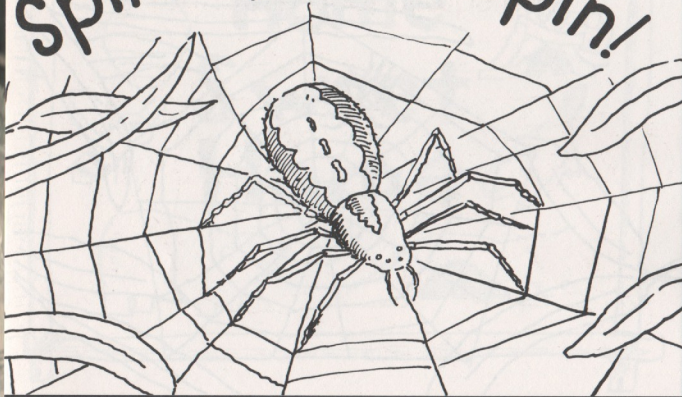
A mountain goat climbs up
rocks to get around.

6

Animals live both near and far.
What kinds live where you are?
Draw them here.

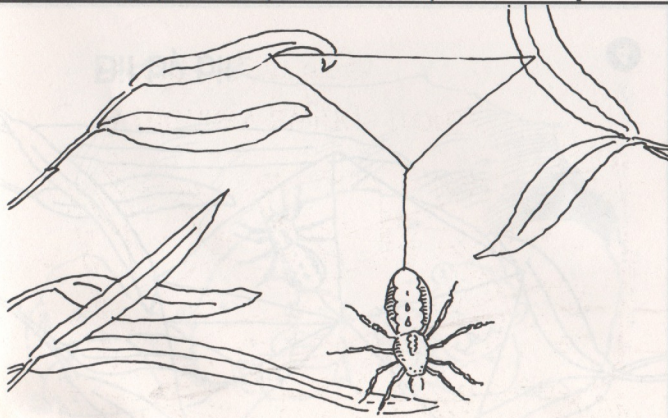
7

Spin, Spider, Spin!



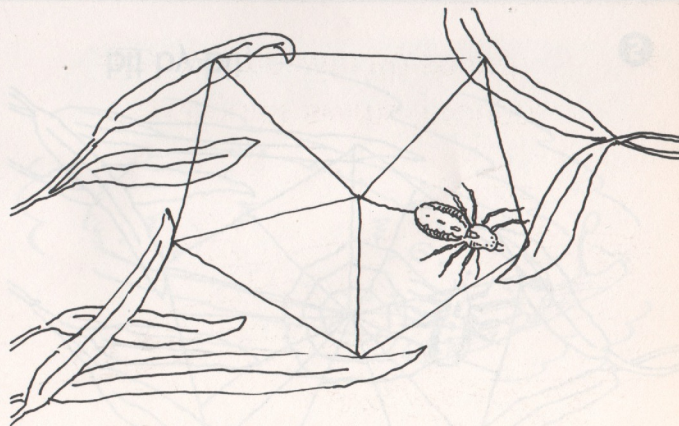
Bit by bit,

1



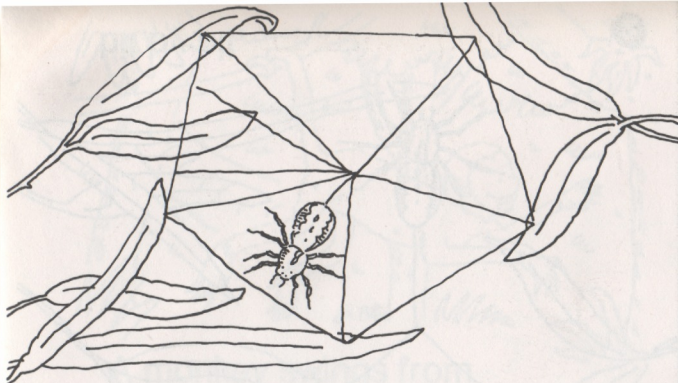
bit by bit,

2



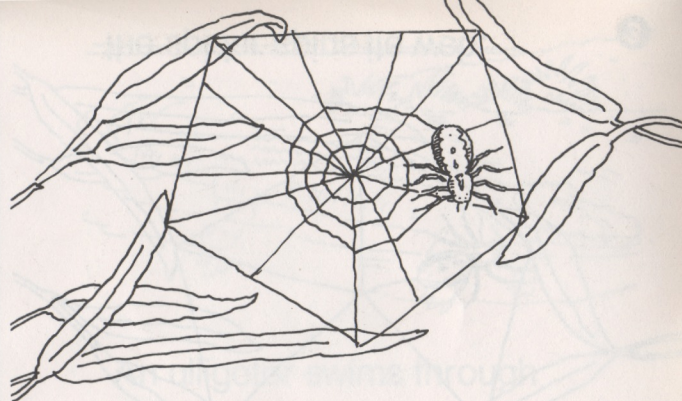
the spider spins its web.

3



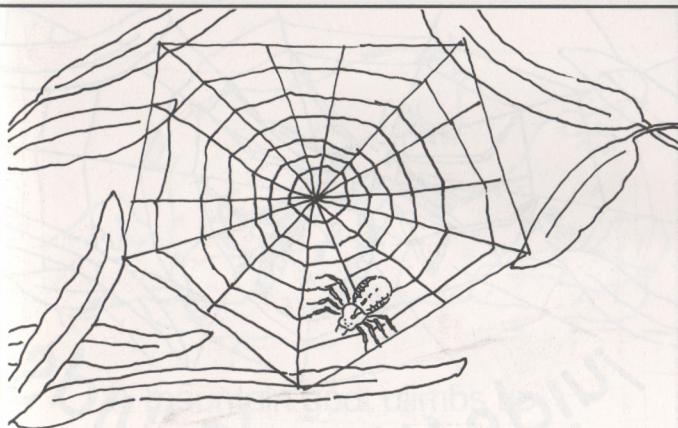
Bit by bit,

4



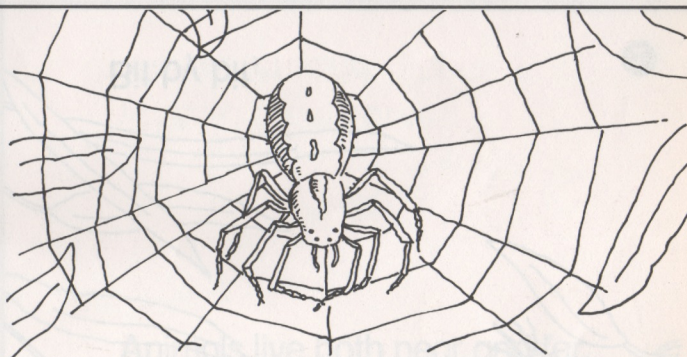
bit by bit,

5



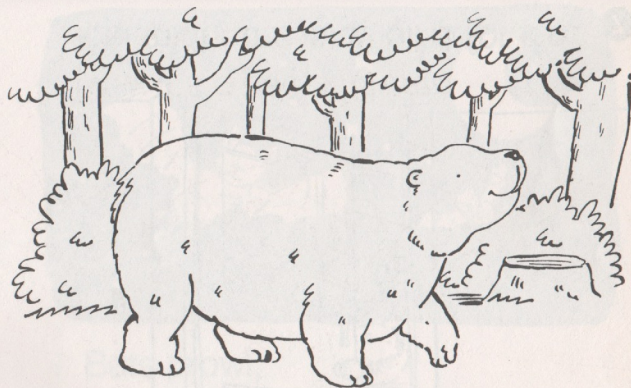
the strands get nice and strong.

6



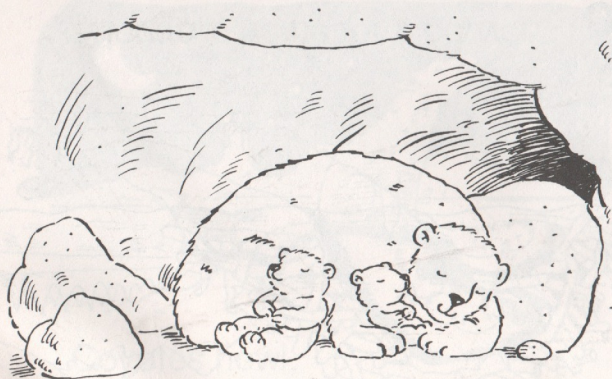
Now it's a beautiful web where
the spider can stay all day long!

7



What is home for a bear?

1



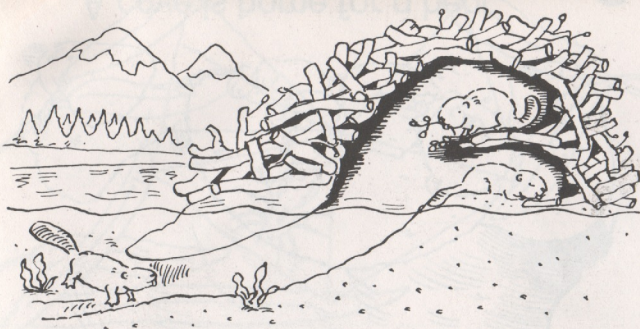
A cave is home for a bear.

2



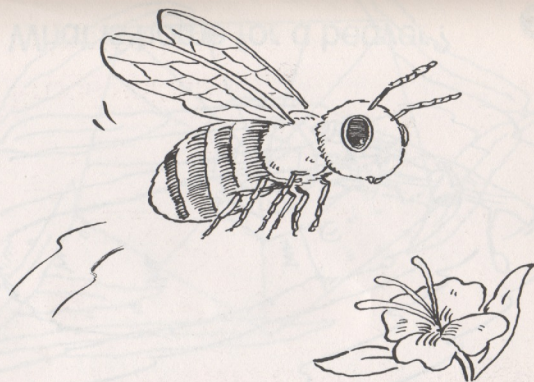
What is home for a beaver?

3



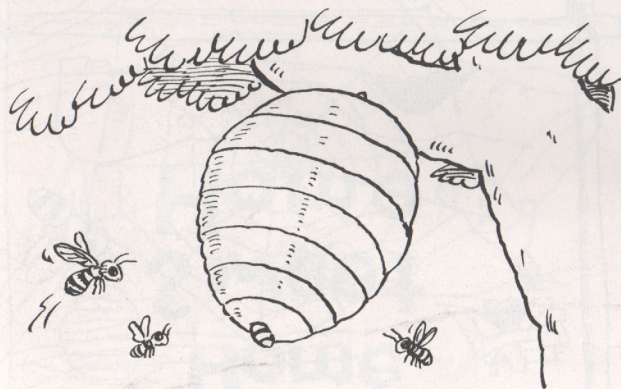
A lodge is home for a beaver.

4



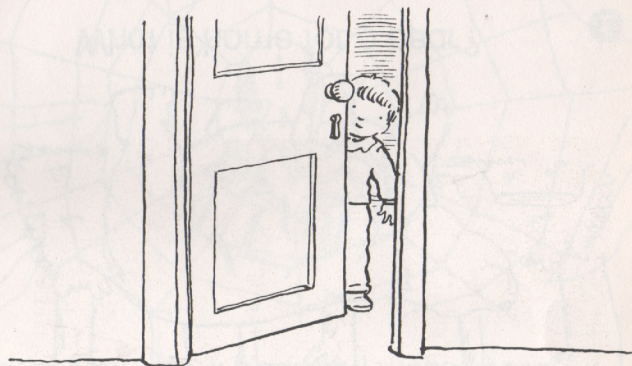
What is home for a bee?

5



A hive is home for a bee.

6



And my home is a home for me!

7

In the Dark of the Night



Bats prowl,
in the dark of the night.

1



Coyotes howl,
in the dark of the night.

2



Frogs splash,
in the dark of the night.

3



Lightning bugs flash,
in the dark of the night.

4



Owls hoot,
in the dark of the night.

5



Mice scoot,
in the dark of the night.

6



While you sleep tight, a lot goes on
in the dark of the night!

7

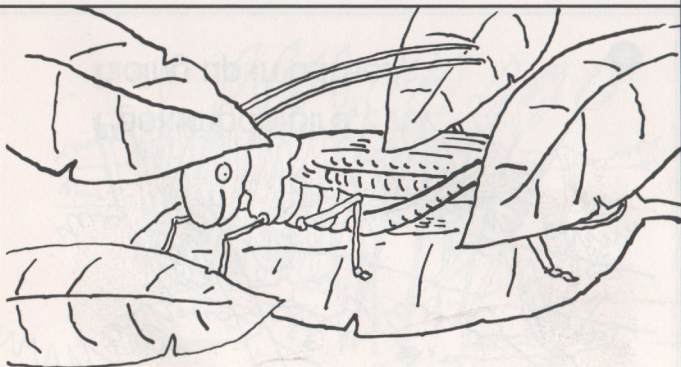


Peek-a-Boo!



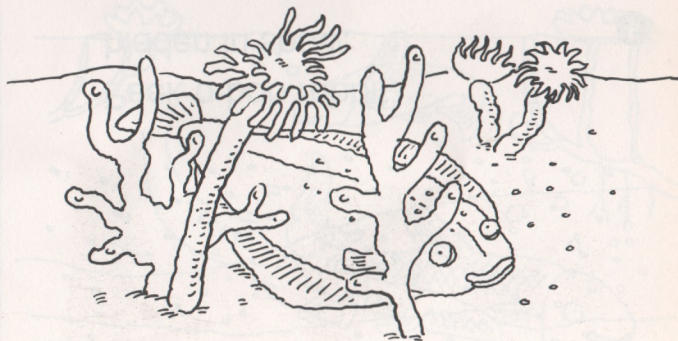
Peek-a-boo snake!
Where are you?

1



Peek-a-boo grasshopper!
You're hiding, too?

2



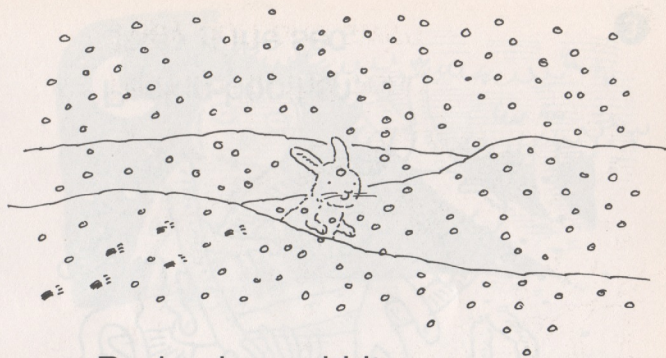
Peek-a-boo fish,
deep in the sea.

3



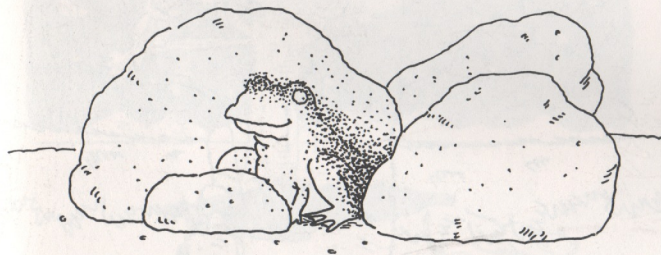
Peek-a-boo bird,
hiding up in a tree.

4



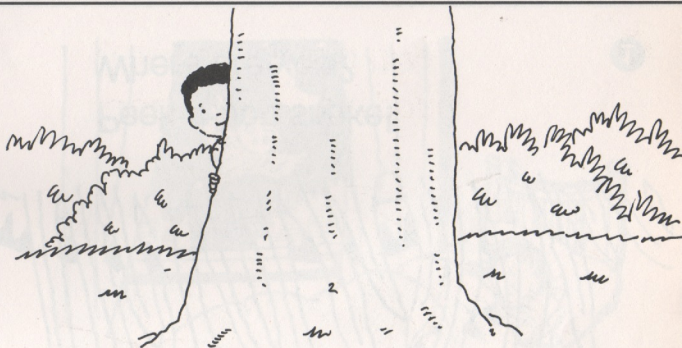
Peek-a-boo rabbit,
hidden in snow.

5



Peek-a-boo frog!
Where did you go?

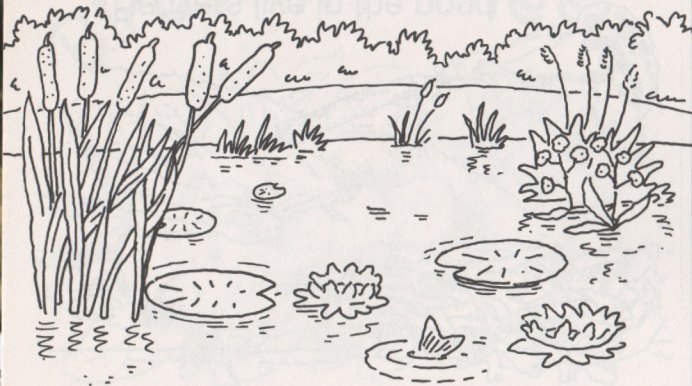
6



Peek-a-boo everyone.
Can you find me?

7

Who Lives in the Pond?



Plants live in the pond.
They grow and sway.

2



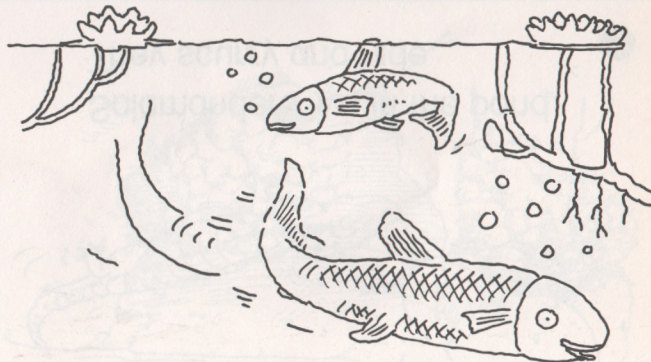
Ducks live in the pond.
They quack and dive.

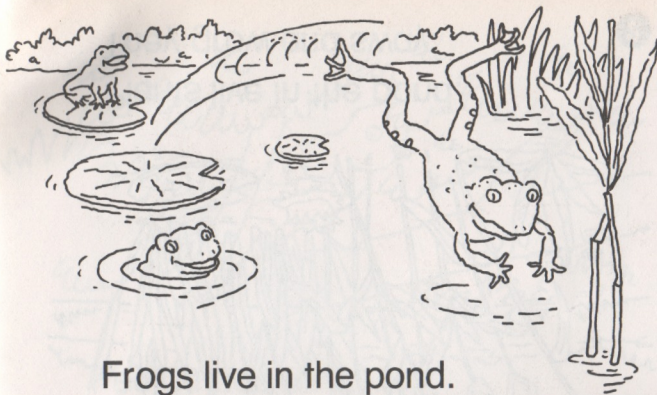
1



Fish live in the pond.
They dart and swim.

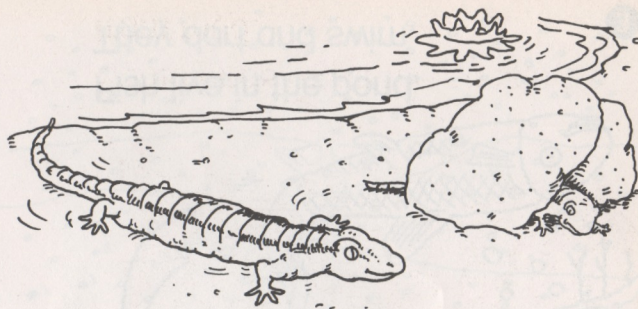
3





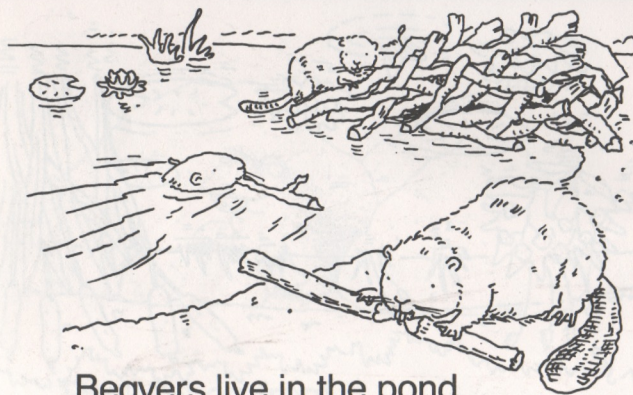
Frogs live in the pond.
They hop and croak.

4



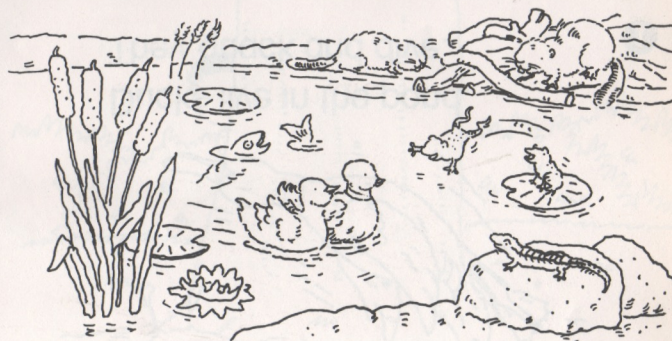
Salamanders live in the pond.
They scurry and hide.

5



Beavers live in the pond.
They build and chew.

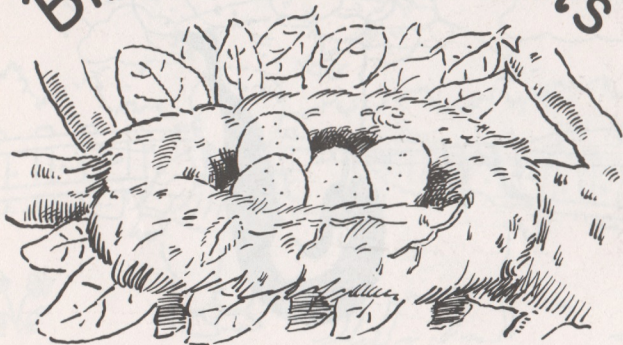
6



They all live in the pond together.
That's what they do!

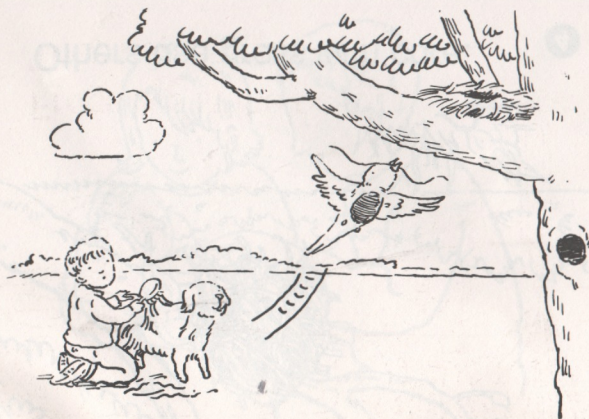
7

Birds Build Nests



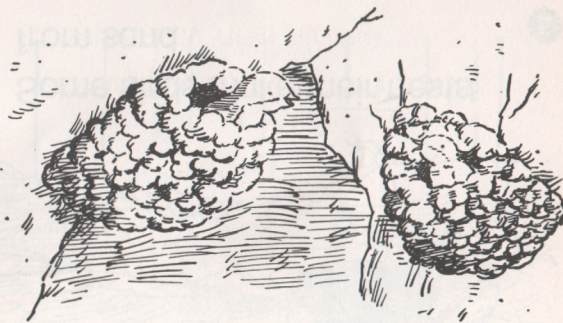
Some birds make their nests from sticks.

1



Others use hair.

2



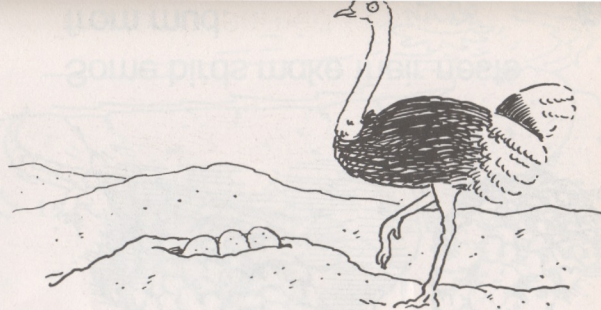
Some birds make their nests from mud.

3



Others use grass with care.

4



Some birds make their nests from sand.

5



Others use stones.

6



No matter how they are made,
each nest is a home.

7

Growing Up



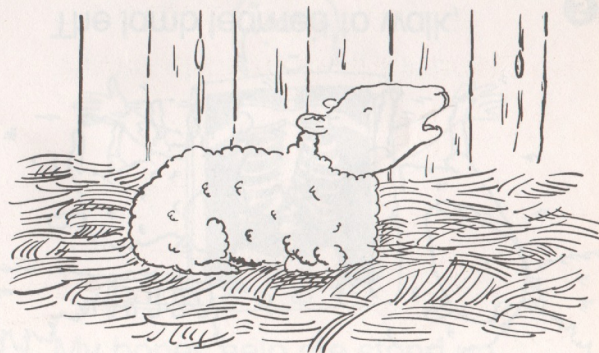
The lamb was born,

1



just like me.

2



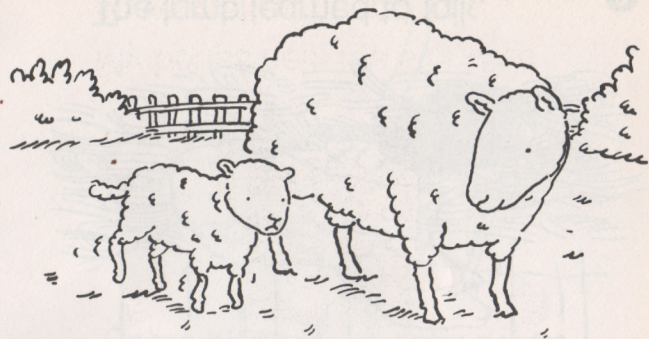
The lamb learned to talk,

3



just like me.

4



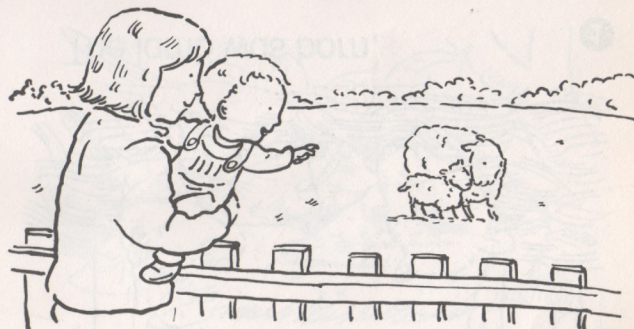
The lamb learned to walk,

5



just like me.

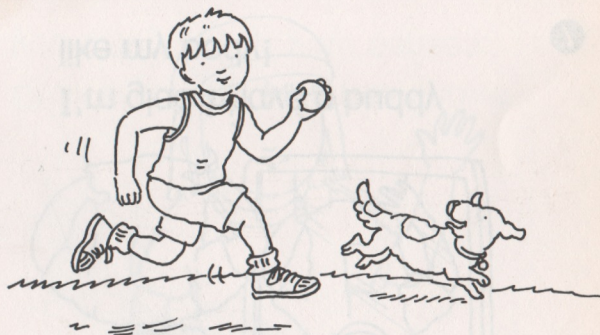
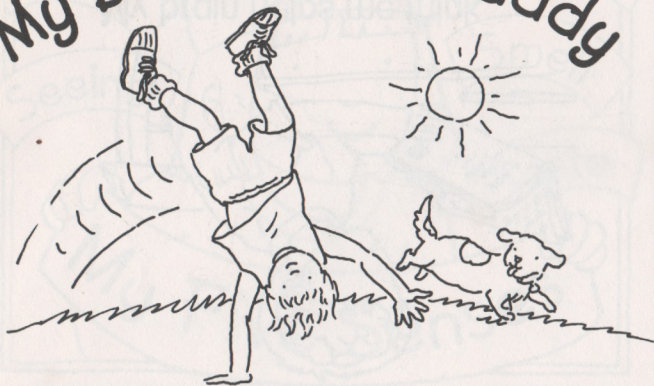
6



And the lamb is loved,
just like me!

7

My Body Is My Buddy



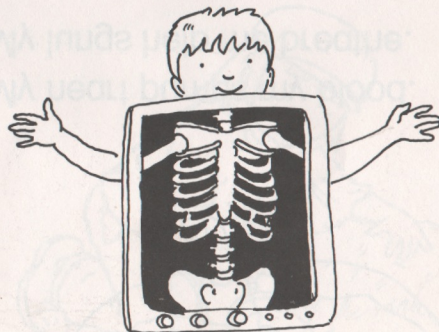
My body is my buddy.
It helps me every day.

1



My muscles help me move
so that I can play.

2



My bones help me stand up
so very straight and tall.

3



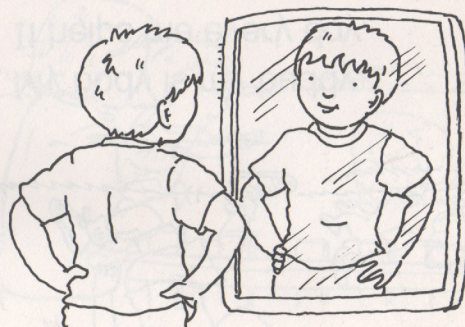
My skin protects my bones
and muscles like a strong wall. **4**



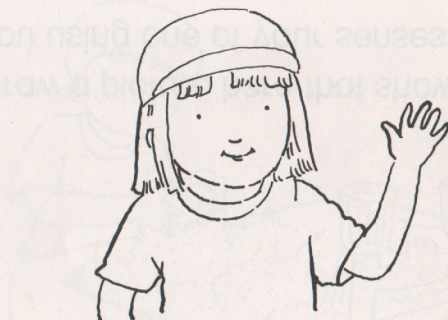
My heart pumps my blood.
My lungs help me breathe. **5**



My brain helps me think
about everything I read! **6**



I'm glad I have a buddy
like my body! **7**



I have five senses.
They are helpful as can be.

1



My nose helps me smell.
My eyes help me see.

2



My hands help me touch.

3



My tongue helps me taste.
Not a sense goes to waste!

4



My ears help me hear,
as plain as can be.

5



Yes, I have five senses.
And five is fine with me!

6

Draw a picture here that shows
you using one of your senses.

7

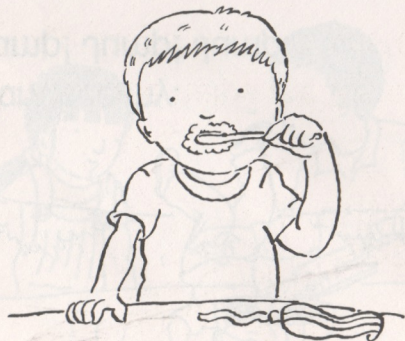


I Am Healthy!



I am healthy.
Scrub! Scrub! Scrub!

1



I am healthy.
Brush! Brush! Brush!

2



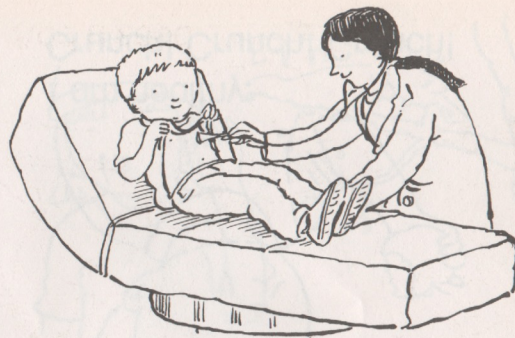
I am healthy.
Crunch! Crunch! Crunch!

3



I am healthy.
Jump! Jump! Jump!

4



I am healthy.
Thump! Thump! Thump!

5



I am healthy.
Look! Look! Look!

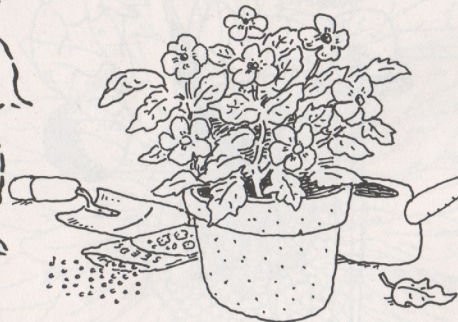
6



I am healthy.
Hooray! Hooray! Hooray!

7

Recipe for a Plant



How do you grow a plant?
It's easy!

1



Take some dirt.

2



Add a seed.

3



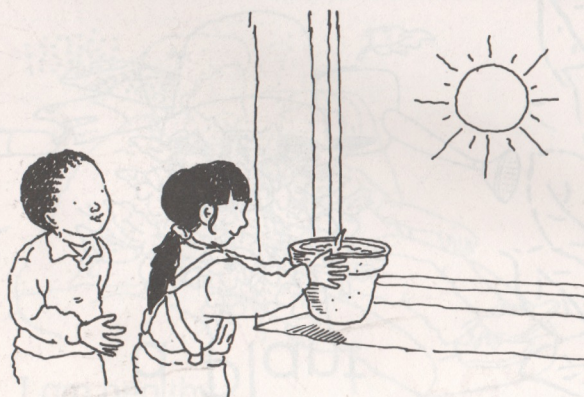
Pour some water,
only as much as you need.

4



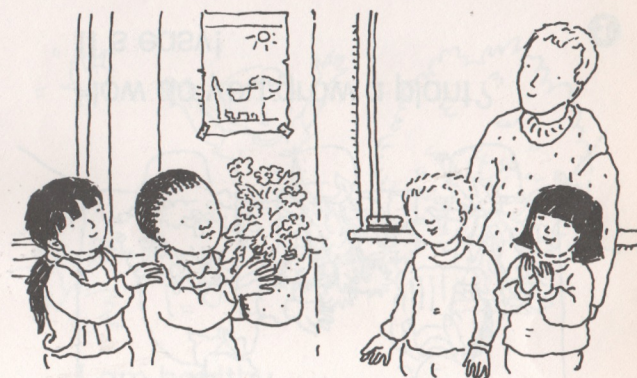
Wait a while.

5



Add lots of sun.

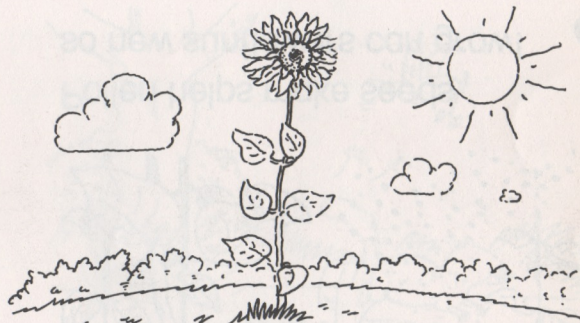
6



Share your plant with everyone!

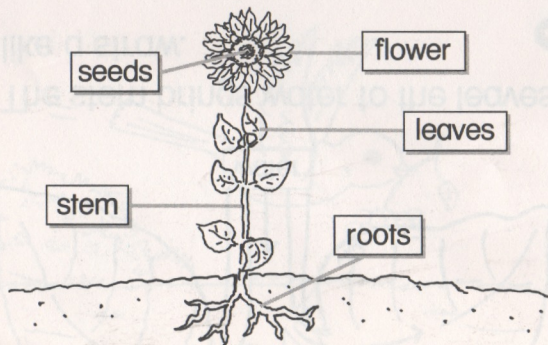
7

Sunflower Helpers



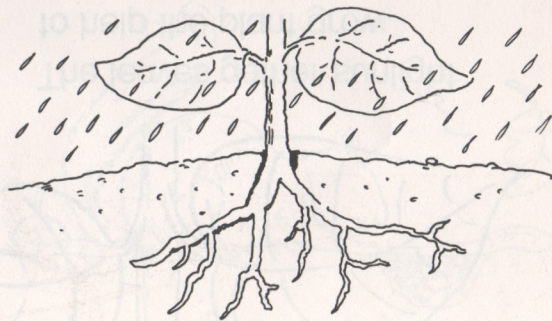
A beautiful sunflower stands
in the sun.

1



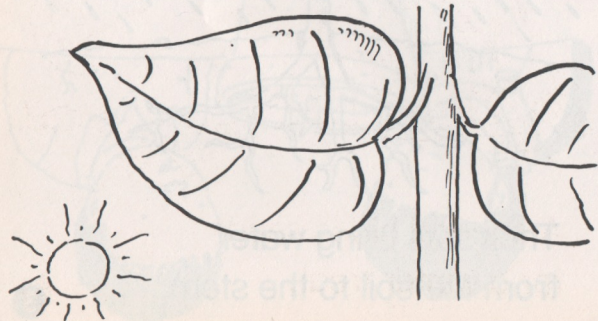
It has many helpers.
Let's meet every one.

2



The roots bring water
from the soil to the stem.

3



The leaves gather sunlight

to help the plant grow.

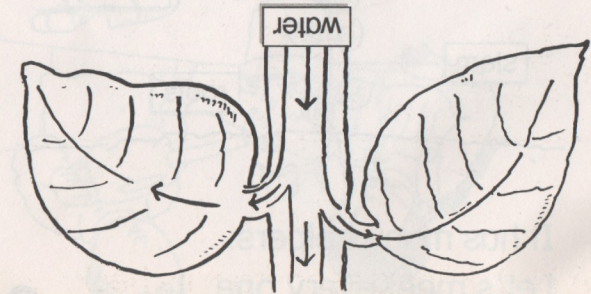
5



Pollen helps make seeds

so new sunflowers can grow!

7



The stem brings water to the leaves,

like a straw.

4



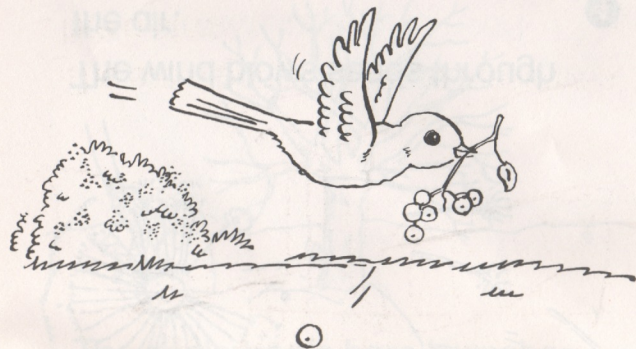
Bees bring pollen

from one sunflower to another.

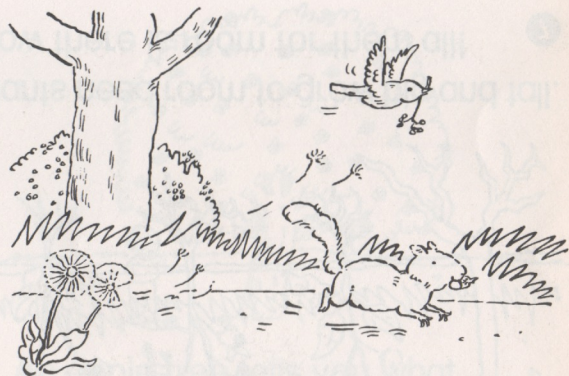
6



Seeds on the Go



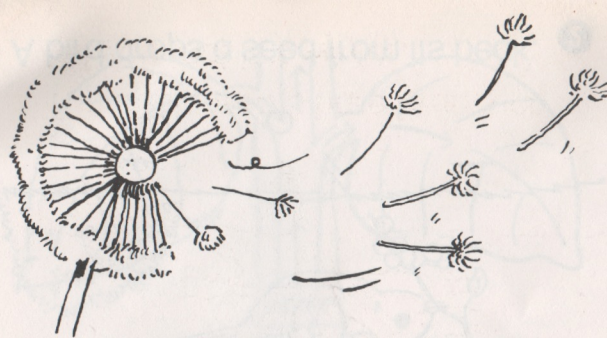
A bird drops a seed from its beak. 2



Seeds are always on the go. 1



A squirrel hides seeds for a winter treat. 3



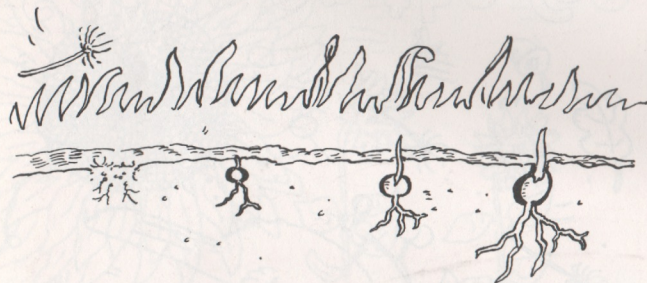
The wind blows seeds through the air.

4



Even feet bring seeds from here to there!

5



Seeds are always on the go, finding new places to grow.

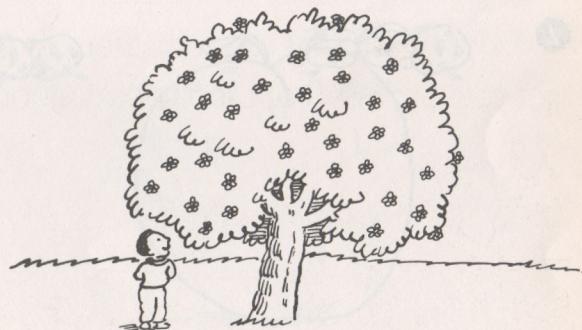
6



Plants need room to grow big and tall. Now there is room for them all!

7

An Apple Tree's Year



An apple tree tells you what season it is. Just take a look!

1



The apple tree's bare branches tell you that it is winter.

2



The apple tree's leaves and tiny buds tell you that it is spring.

3



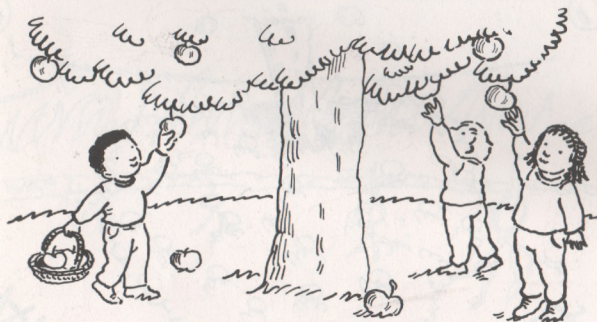
The apple tree's pretty flowers tell you that summer is near!

4



The flowers have turned into apples! Summer is almost over.

5



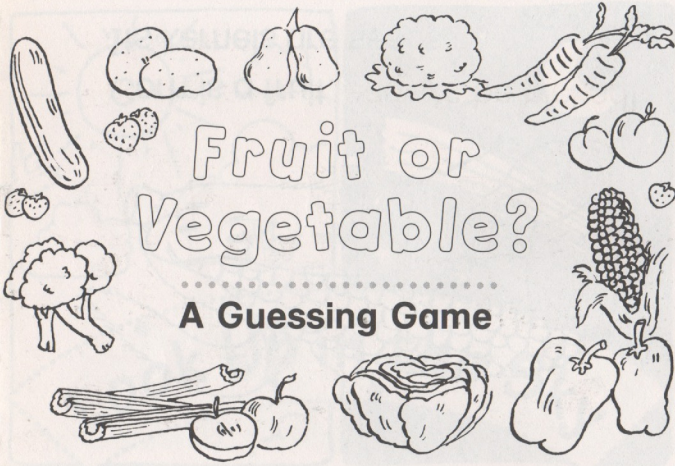
The apples are ready to be picked! Fall is here.

6

How can you enjoy the apples?
Write your idea here.

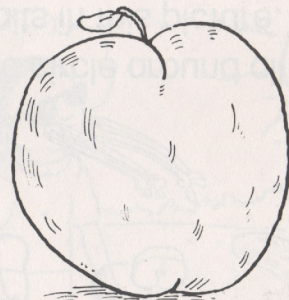


7



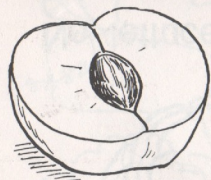
Fruit or Vegetable?

A Guessing Game



Any food with seeds is a fruit.
Is a peach a fruit?

1



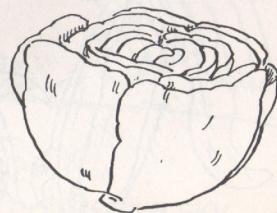
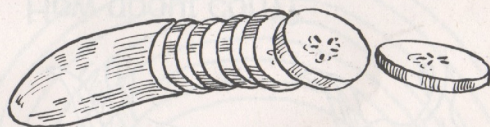
Yes, a peach is a fruit.



Is a cucumber a fruit?

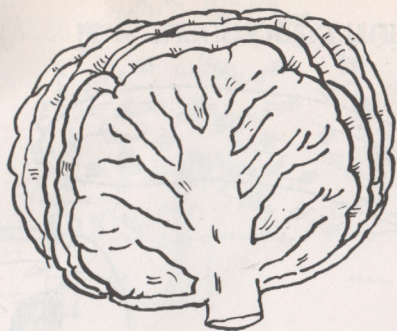
2

Yes, a cucumber is a fruit!



Is lettuce a fruit?

3



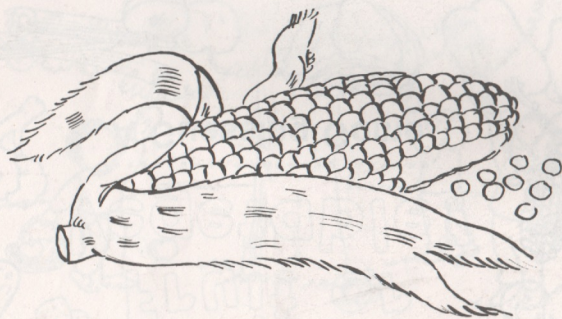
No, lettuce is a vegetable.
It has no seeds.

4



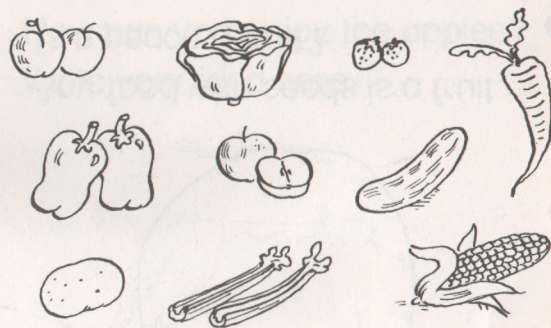
How about corn?
Is corn a fruit or a vegetable?

5



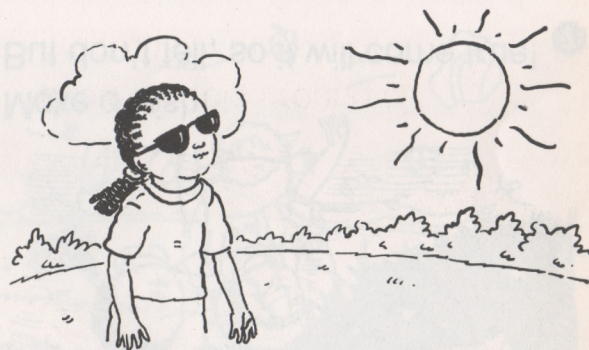
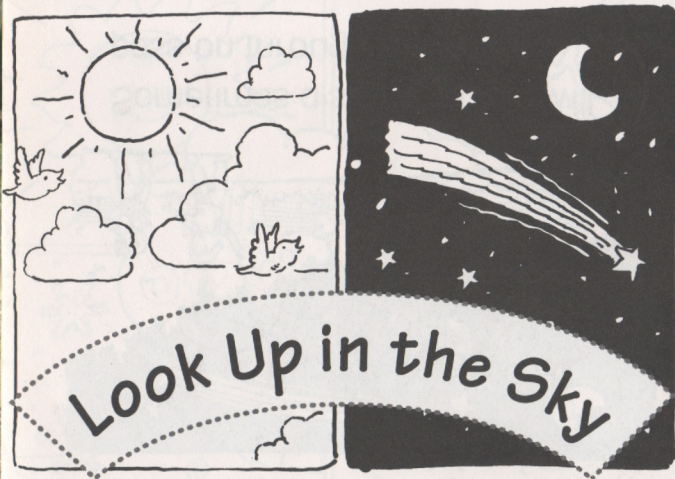
Corn is a fruit.
Its kernels are seeds.

6



Draw a circle around all
the fruits in this picture.

7



Look up in the sky. What do you see?
In daytime, the sun shines on me. ①



Fluffy white clouds float on by. ②



A pretty rainbow colors the sky. ③



At night, the moon gives lots of light.

4



And stars look like gems so bright.

5



Sometimes a shooting star will pass on through.

6



Make a wish!
But don't tell, so it will come true!

7

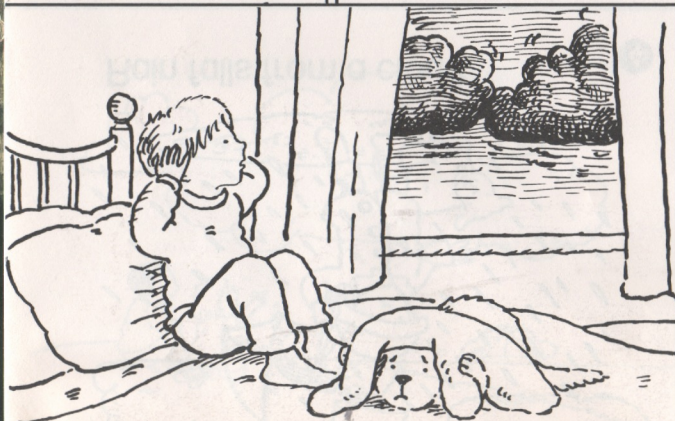


All Kinds of Weather



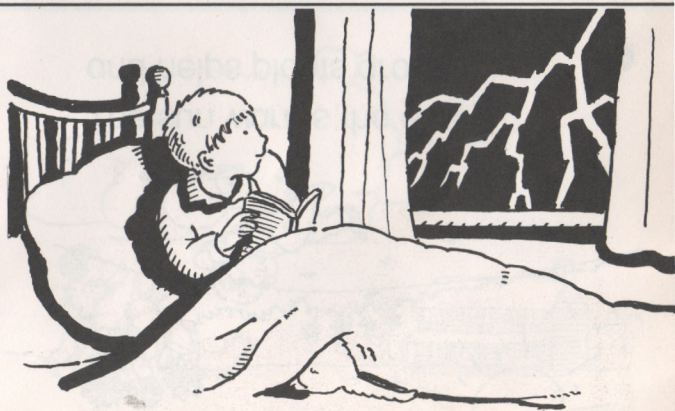
Wind blows my hat.

1



Thunder is loud.

2



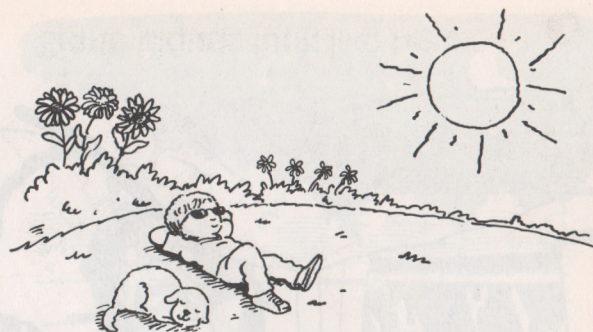
Lightning is bright.

3



Rain falls from a cloud.

4



The sun warms the earth
and helps plants grow.

5



And often in winter,
there is frosty white snow!

6

What is your favorite kind of weather?
Draw it here.

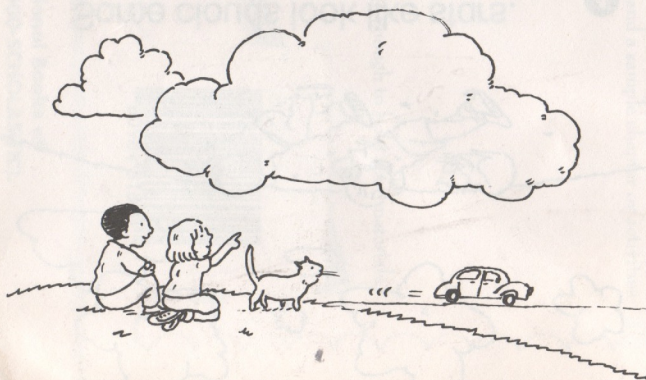
7

Clouds



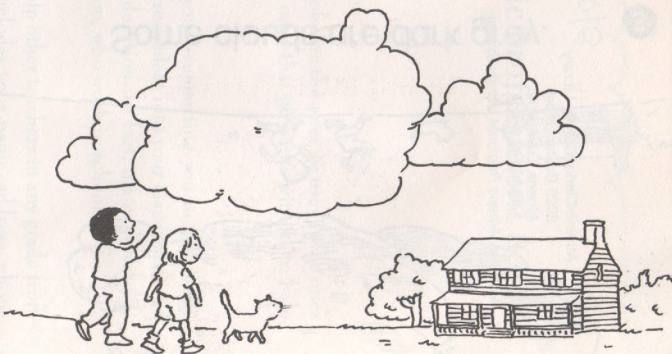
Some clouds look like horses.

1



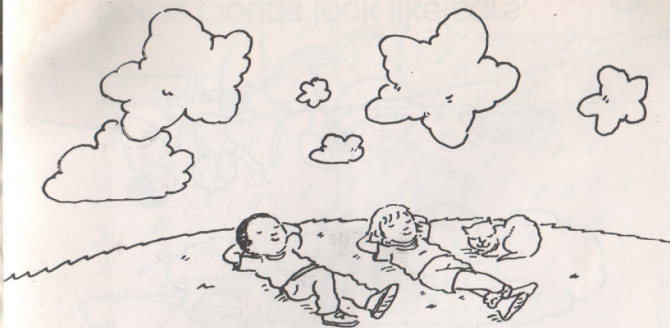
Some clouds look like cars.

2



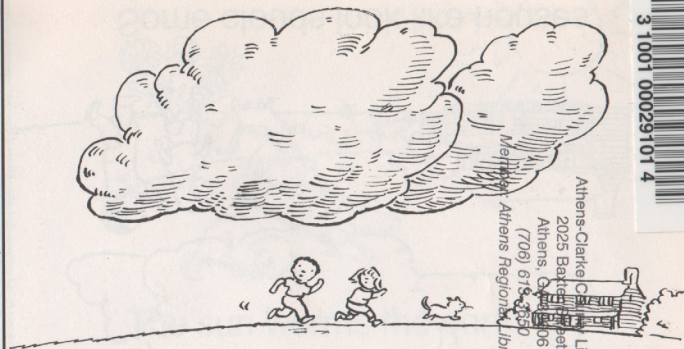
Some clouds look like houses.

3



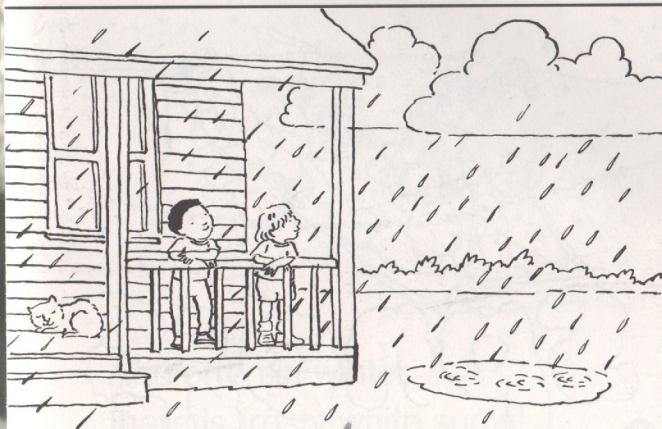
Some clouds look like stars.

4



Some clouds are dark gray.

5



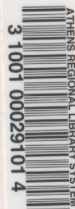
They make the rain fall.

6



Sometimes when it's sunny,
there are no clouds at all!

7



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